

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 331
By O'Brien

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Irene Power Dickinson of
Pleasant Hill.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Irene Power Dickinson; and

WHEREAS, Irene Dickinson, who passed from this life on December 31, 1995, was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to her profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Dickinson was a nationally known anti-nuclear activist and crusader to protect the environment, as well as a longtime proponent of recycling and a cleaner earth; and

WHEREAS, Irene Dickinson was an active and devout member of the Pleasant Hill Community Church, where she served on the peace and social actions committees, and organized programs to bring speakers on environmental, peace and farm workers issues to Pleasant Hill; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Dickinson was instrumental in obtaining a \$12,185 grant from Tennessee Solid Waste Management Fund to aid recycling efforts locally; and

WHEREAS, she was active in the environmental alliance that opposed TVA efforts to bring on-line the nuclear power plant at Watts Bar; and

WHEREAS, Irene had frequent correspondence with representatives at the state and federal level on matters of environmental protection and nuclear power; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Dickinson was born in Louisville, New York; graduated from the University of New York at Potsdam and Buffalo; worked as an elementary school teacher for more than twenty years; and then traveled extensively; and

WHEREAS, this petite, gentle woman's unflagging power and persistence stand as a reminder of what one person can accomplish; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Mrs. Dickinson leaves behind will be long remembered and treasured by her friends and associates as her perspicacity and commitment to many causes demands that we acknowledge the power of humanity and compassion; and

WHEREAS, Irene Dickinson enjoyed the loving companionship of her husband, Reverend Leon Dickinson, whose accomplishments are equally astounding; she also leaves behind two loving siblings, two stepsons, one stepdaughter, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Irene was an active member of many civic organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the Volusia/Flagler Women's Political Caucus, Leatherleaf Community Relations Council (a farm workers support group), the West Volusia Society for Nuclear Freeze, People to Prevent Nuclear War, the Volusia County Democratic Executive Committee, the League of Better Living, the Lake Helen Garden Club, and others too numerous to mention; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her numerous memberships and undertakings, Mrs. Dickinson still found time to work quietly to help individuals: planning a wedding for a woman whose parents were far away, or making sure a mother got needed supplies for her baby; and

WHEREAS, Irene Dickinson improved the quality of life for Tennesseans through her numerous endeavors such as organizing Earth Day programs, sponsoring recycling pick-ups, fundraising to purchase books and videos for all county school libraries and remaining well informed and knowledgeable about the effects of an unhealthy environment; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Irene Power Dickinson, remembering with admiration her exemplary character and many selfless contributions to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Mrs. Dickinson.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.